

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original) An expression vector having a polynucleotide which hybridizes with a complementary chain of the polynucleotide represented by SEQ ID NO:8 under a stringent condition and also encodes a polypeptide that has the activity of hydroxylating the 24-position of an oleanane type triterpene.
2. (original) The expression vector described in claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide is the polynucleotide represented by SEQ ID NO:8.
3. (currently amended) A transformant in which a host is transformed with the expression vector described in claim 1-~~or 2~~.
4. (original) The transformant described in claim 3, wherein the host is a microorganism.
5. (original) The transformant described in claim 4, wherein the microorganism is a yeast.
6. (original) An expression vector having: a polynucleotide which hybridizes with a complementary chain of the polynucleotide represented by SEQ ID NO:8 under a stringent condition and also encodes a polypeptide that has the activity of hydroxylating the 24-position of an oleanane type triterpene; and a β -amyrin synthase gene.
7. (original) The expression vector described in claim 6, wherein the polynucleotide is the polynucleotide represented by SEQ ID NO:8.

8. (currently amended) A transformant in which a host is transformed with the expression vector described in claim 6-~~or~~ 7.

9. (original) The transformant described in claim 8, wherein the host is a microorganism.

10. (original) The transformant described in claim 9, wherein the microorganism is a yeast.

11. (original) A lanosterol synthase deficient yeast mutant strain deposited as FERM BP-10201.

12. (currently amended) A method for producing a polypeptide that has the activity of hydroxylating the 24-position of an oleanane type triterpene, which comprises: a step of culturing the transformant described in claim 3~~any one of claims 3 to 5~~; and thereby producing the polypeptide described in claim 1.

13. (currently amended) A method for producing: a polypeptide that has the activity of hydroxylating the 24-position of an oleanane type triterpene; and a β -amyrin synthase, which comprises culturing the transformant described in claim 8~~in any one of claims 8 to 10~~,

- 1) a step for producing the polypeptide described in claim 1~~3~~ and
- 2) a step for producing the β -amyrin synthase.

14. (currently amended) A method for producing an oleanane type triterpene in which the 24-position is hydroxylated, which comprises a step of allowing the transformant described in claim 3~~any one of claims 3 to 5~~ to act upon an oleanane type triterpene.

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15. (currently amended) A method for producing an oleanane type triterpene in which the 24-position is hydroxylated, by culturing the transformant described in claim 8-any ~~one of claims 8 to 10.~~

16. (original) A method for producing an oleanane type triterpene in which the 24-position is hydroxylated, by culturing the yeast mutant strain described in claim 11.